Hon'ble NOS(C) and Chairman, Postal Board has been received through Prime Minister's Office against the SPOs Nadia South Division, Kalyani and ASPO (HQ) Nadia South Division. The complaint was got enquired into and appropriate action has been taken.

Discussion with China on Security Related Issues

2173. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had detailed discussions with his Chinese counterpart on security related issues particularly combating cross border terrorism and narcotics related crimes recently;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and the outcome thereof; and

(c) to what extent the long standing security and crime related issues have been solved?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The visit was at the invitation of the Government of Peoples Republic of China. Several issues of common interest including combating international crimes were discussed with the Minister for Public Security and the Minister for Supervision, Peoples Republic of China. A meeting was also held with the Prime Minister. These high level contacts are aimed at achieving long-term stable and good neighbourly relations between the two countries.

कोरियर सेवा द्वारा वसूल किया जाने वाला सेवा शुल्क

2174. **श्री गोविन्दराव आदिक:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कोरियर सेवाएं देश के कोने-कोने से आरंभ की जा रही है और ग्राहकों से मनमाना शुल्क वसूल किया जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस क्षेत्र के लिए कोई दिशानिर्देश जारी करेगी अथवा सेवा शुल्क के बारे में कोई सीमा निर्धारित करेगी;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० वी० रगैय्या नायडू): (क) जी हां। प्राइवेट कूरियर एजेंसियों द्वारा इस समय वसूल किया जाने वाला सेवा प्रभार सरकार द्वारा विनियमित नहीं है।

(ख) से (घ) जब तक प्राइवेट कूरियर सेवाओं को सरकार के रेगुलेटरी फ्रेमवर्क के अन्तर्गत लाने के लिए भारतीय डाकघर अधिनियम, 1898 में यथोचित संशोधन नहीं किया जाता, तब तक इसके अधीन कोई मार्गदर्शी सिद्धांत जारी नहीं किए जा सकते।

Extra Departmental Employees in Postal Department

2175. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Extra Departmental Employees in Postal Department in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of Extra Departmental Employees in Orissa, Postal division wise;

(c) the number of such employees in Keonjher district of Orissa who have been working for more than ten years; and

(d) whether such employees would be given retirement benefit or completion of their service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) Information is being collected from the Field Units and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The Extra Departmental Employees are not entitled to Pension. However, the EDAs who have completed 10 years of continuous services are

entitled to grant of an ex-gratia gratuity upto a maximum of Rs. 6000/- on their superannuation at the age of 65 years. Besides benefits under Group Insurance Scheme to eligible ED Agents also become payable as per terms and conditions laid down by Government.

Orientation Course for Tourists visiting National Parks

2176. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to start orientation course for tourists visiting National Parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any fruitful result is expected out of such courses; and

(d) whether responsibility is to be fixed on persons on duty to ensure proper maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir. However, visitor information and interpretation centres have been established in major National Parks and Sanctuaries to educate and orient the visitors for wildlife and nature conservation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Staff, including guides, posted in national parks and sanctuaries are responsible for ensuring that tourists follow the prescribed code of conduct inside these areas. However, effective implementation of these regulations also requires cooperation and support of the visitors.

Additional funds to central Road Fund

2177. SHRI NARAIN PRASAD GUPTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any resolution for providing additional funds to the States for the maintenance of roads and development works under Central Road Fund was passed by Parliament;

(b) whether the resolution has since been implemented; and

(c) what are the reasons for not having any improvement in Central Road Fund in spite of passing of the said resolution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The resolution could not be implemented so far due to budgetary constraints.

Afforestation Programme in Darjeeling

2178. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of tourist ranges brought under the programmes of afforestation in Darjeeling Hills during the last three years;

(b) the Range-wise areas covered under such programmes; and

(c) what was the amount of funds alloted and utilised for such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Negotiations with tenderers by Modern Food Industries Ltd.

2179. SHRI KAILASH NARAIN SARANG: